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If you have any comment, suggestion, or news item you would like to submit, send them via E-Mail to 3241437@mcimail.com or B.PASTERNAK@genie.geis.com. You can contact Newsline at +1 805-296-7180. It is a combination answering and FAX machine, if you have a FAX to send, wait for the voice prompt and press your fax-send button.

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NEWSLINE RADIO - CBBS EDITION #122 - POSTED 04/30/94

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The following is late news about Amateur Radio for Radio Amateurs as prepared from NEWSLINE RADIO scripts by the staff of the AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE, INC. -- formerly the WESTLINK RADIO NETWORK. For current information updates, please call

Audio Version of Newsline

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Los Angeles.....	(213) 462-0008
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Seattle.....	(206) 281-8455
Tacoma.....	(206) 927-7373
Louisville.....	(502) 894-8559

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The Midwest Connection BBS..... (701) 239-2440
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Internet.....
 In the rec.radio.info newsgroup
 FTP: oak.oakland.edu, file: pub/hamradio/docs/newsline
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For further information about the AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE, please write to us with an SASE at P.O. Box 463, Pasadena, CA 91102.

Thank You
NEWSLINE

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Some of the hams of NEWSLINE RADIO...

WA6ITF WB6MQV WB6FDF K6DUE W6RCL N6AHU N6AWE N6TCQ K6PGX N6PNY
KU8R N8DTN W9JUV KC9RP K9XI KB5KCH KC5UD KC0HF G8AUU WD0AKO DJ0QN
and many others in the United States and around the globe!!!

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Radio service. It proposes a specific fee structure for amateur "vanity" call signs if the Commission's proposal for a plan to offer such call signs eventually is approved. The FCC's current proposal is to assess a fee of \$70. That's actually seven dollars a year for the ten year term of an Amateur Radio license.

The good news in all of this? There are no other government ham radio licensing process.

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YODER

An unlicensed broadcaster has been told to pay a hefty fine. The FCC says that it is denying Andrew R. Yoder's Application for Review of his \$17,500 penalty for allegedly and repeatedly operating an unlicensed broadcast station. The FCC categorically rejected Yoder's argument that the evidence against him was purely circumstantial and insufficient to establish that he was legally in control of the so called pirate station.

On February 22nd and 23rd 1992, FCC engineers monitored transmissions from an unlicensed broadcaster on 7.415 Mhz. The station identified itself s Radio USA. The transmissions were eventually traced to Yoder's parents home in Springs, Pennsylvania. When FCC investigators arrived they found Yoder's car parked in the driveway and attempted to make a station inspection. But they were barred from entry by Yoder who says that he is in no way obligated to allow Commission personnel to inspect his station.

While the FCC never did see the alleged pirate broadcast station, they say that the station and operator were positively identified by both voice and close-in direction finding. Later, audio tape analysis and voice printing indicated that Yoder's voice was the same as that monitored on the Radio USA broadcasts.

As previously reported, on May 21st 1992, the Laurel, Maryland FCC Field Operations Bureau issued Yoder a \$17,500 Notice of Apparent Liability to Monetary Forfeiture. The NAL was converted to a fine after the FCC rejected Yoder's response. Yoder was ordered to pay the fine before April 11th 1994 or face further punitive action.

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INVESTIGATION EVIDENCE

Still with FCC regulatory issues, word that the investigation of irregularities in numerous California VE test sessions is still ongoing and the government is seeking evidence in the case. The feeling among Washington insiders is that the investigation may soon expand outside of California. Some believe that there is

the possibility of ties to VE teams in other states including south Florida and Texas and areas in the Caribbean.

If you have any information that you feel might help in this or any other alleged licensing fraud case there are a number of ways to get it to the investigators handling the matter. After looking at all the possible avenues it is our conclusion that the best one of all is to contact Bart Jahnke, KB9NM who runs the American Radio Relay League's VEC operation. Bart has been handling the current investigation for the American Radio Relay League and in our view he is an excellent person to channel any facts concerning this matter to the FCC.

There is no way that Bart or anyone else can promise you anonymity, but Bart can be reached at the ARRL VEC, area code (203) 666-1541. If you would rather write, his address is Bart Jahnke, in care of the ARRL VEC, 225 Main Street, Newington, Connecticut 06111.

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FCC ORDERS SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RETESTS

Here is a late breaking story. Word that Fifty nine Southern California hams have been ordered by the FCC to stand for retesting or face the possibility of further punitive government action. The FCC says that all fifty nine are hams who passed at examination sessions conducted by the ARRL VEC in 1992 and 1993. They say that the examinations and the administering Volunteer Examiners that gave them are now under intensive scrutiny by the Commission and other government agencies.

In its letter to those being ordered retested, the FCC flatly accused the applicants examined at those exam sessions of cheating. The letters say in part: "...the irregularities on your examination papers indicate that you were apparently given access to the exact (answer) key used by the volunteer examiners."

The commission has given the fifty-nine applicants exactly sixty days in which to retake any disqualified examination element at a session being conducted by the Greater Los Angeles Amateur Radio Group VEC. Failure to pass a retest will result in license class downgrade, loss of call sign or loss of license entirely, as deemed appropriate by the FCC.

In issuing the retesting order, the FCC also mandated that no volunteer examiner who was present at the suspect session, regardless of whether or not he administered test elements at those sessions, would be permitted to attend or administer a re-examination.

So far almost three dozen VE's throughout California have been suspended on FCC orders to the Volunteer Examination Coordinators under whom they serve. The bulk of these being in the southern half of the state and to mandated retesting order by the FCC is

viewed as another step that could lead to criminal charges being filed against volunteer examiners that the FCC believes aided and abetted applicants to obtain amateur radio licenses or upgrades through fraudulent means.

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EDITORIAL NOTE: EXAM CHEATING

If we may be permitted a brief editorial opinion. Be it California, Florida, Texas, New York or anywhere else, there is simply no place in ham radio for those who may be profiteering by bringing in people who do not meet the minimum criteria for entry.

We at Newsline have made exposing those behind any testing scam a number one priority. This is one matter that we at Newsline will not let die in the Washington bureaucratic red tape.

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DAYTON '94

As this newscast goes to air, the 1994 Dayton Hamvention is just getting underway. Reports from Dayton's Hara Arena say that '94 may be the best Hamvention in years. Newsline will have a complete wrap-up on Hamvention '94 next week.

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MOTOROLA SUIT

A name well known to radio amateurs is Motorola. The company pioneered two way FM communications. Many an early FMer started out with a single channel 80 D or Motrac in the trunk of his car. The HT 220 hand held is a legend to FMers and it was Motorola that supplied the handie talkies used on all of the SAREX space shuttle missions. But now Motorola is in trouble with its competitors who are claiming unfair business tactics.

The city of Birmingham, Alabama wants to upgrade its police and fire rescue radio system. Motorola submitted a bid of nearly \$11.5 million for an 800 Mhz trunked system. That's near a million dollars more than the bid submitted by Erickson GE Mobile communications. None the less the city signed a contract with Motorola. Erickson GE accused the city officials of violating state bid laws. The company has filed suit against the city in Federal Court.

Counsel member Jimmy Blake opposed giving the contract to Motorola. He said the city did not follow proper bid procedures. The next step is up to a Federal Judge.

If one prediction comes true, Motorola will still wind up the winner. There is speculation that city leaders will throw out the proposals and solicit a new set of bids. If that happens the

city could make the bid specifications so strict that only one company's system can be considered.

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CALIFORNIA HERO

Amateur Radio recently made headlines in Acton, California when 36 year old Chris Killian, N7IOV, helped in the capture of two robbers. According to the Antelope Valley News of Lancaster, California Killian was approached by an armed man in a McDonald's restaurant. The alleged felon inquiring about Killian's Hand-held radio.

When the man and an accomplice left the eatery, Killian, who is a reserve deputy, followed and relayed their route to another ham who contacted sheriff's deputies. The two suspects were picked up that night and charged in the hold-up. Killian told the News that he ordinarily doesn't carry a radio with him but that he'd been using the hand-held the previous weekend to test several area repeater stations.

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MISSISSIPPI ICE STORM

Thorn that hit much of the U.S. on in February was especially damaging in Mississippi, and was the worst there in more than 40 years. This, according to Hank Downey, K5QNE.

Downey, writing in The Magnolia Report ham radio newsletter says that the State's Amateur Radio disaster relief efforts were led by Jim Porter, W5HTV. Porter is Director of Communications for the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency. He and Larry Clark, WB5AKR who is that group's statewide liaison to the Amateur Radio community directed traffic handling while also sending amateurs to areas of greatest need.

Porter's just released report says that several amateurs were able to set up from mobile and portable, emergency-powered sites and to activate the Magnolia Net. This is the Mississippi Section phone net and its key operators included among its members was net manager Al Sudduth, WA5TPM. Al operated mobile after his home antennas came down in the ice.

Porter also writes that the Jackson Amateur Radio Club activated W5PFC, their permanent station at the State Headquarters of the American Red Cross in the capital city, to coordinate with Red Cross offices around the state.

As we go to air, it's reported that many hams in this same area have just completed handling communications for the recent flood emergency. You have seen the pictures on CNN and other television news services. That story as soon as the ham radio details are

known.

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HERTZBERG OBIT

The changing of the guard in Amateur Radio continues with the sad news that Joe Hertzberg, N3EA has died. The ARRL reports that Hertzberg passed away in Silver Spring, Maryland at age 86.

Joe was previously known as K3JH and was first licensed in 1926. During World War Two he was involved in the development of electronic navigation systems. His work brought him wide acclaim and he was decorated by both the U.S. and England.

After the war Hertzberg went to work for RCA and in 1956 was named RCA Man Of The Year. He ended his career as a corporate vice president of RCA. In the late 1960s, he became active in Amateur Radio once again and his station included a full-size 80 meter cubical quad on a 115 foot Telrex "Big Bertha" rotating pole that was featured in a 1970 QST. He put his station to good use following several natural disasters, including a 1972 earthquake in Nicaragua.

Joe Hertzberg, N3EA dead at age 86.

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TV ENGINEER KILLED ON REMOTE

A television remote pick-up broadcast engineer was on assignment for CNN was electrocuted while in a broadcast van outside a federal courthouse. Al Battle, 37, was part of a technical crew from Potomac Television Services Corp., which provides services to the Cable News Network.

Battle was inside the van raising the antenna mast when the microwave dish hit a wire on February 22. He was at the courthouse for a story about a CIA official and his wife who were charged with spying. As far as we can determine Al Battle was not a radio amateur.

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MIR / SAREX LINK

The space shuttle and the Russian Mir space station have QSO's by ham radio. On April 13th astronaut Jay Apt, N5QWL, contacted Rita Iaquinto, VK3CFI, in Melbourne, Australia. At the same time Russian cosmonaut Valery Polyakov, U3MIR, hooked up with Graham Ratcliff, VK5AGR, in Adelaide. The Australians then used a telephone link to connect the two spacecraft as both passed over Australia, at 5:36 PM Australia time. The Shuttle to Mir contact was arranged by the Shuttle Amateur Radio Experiment Working Group.

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